

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
FOR THE  
THREE-POINT MOUNTAIN TRAILHEAD  
FOUR RIVERS FIELD OFFICE  
ID-110-2007-EA-9**

I have reviewed the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (CEQ) for significance (40 CFR 1508.27) and have determined the actions analyzed in ID-110-2007-EA-9 would not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This finding was made by considering both the context and intensity of the potential effects, as described in the above EA, using the following factors defining significance:

*1)Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.*

ID-110-2007-EA-9 documents that the proposed action would reduce water-caused erosion from enthusiast-created trails. Improvements to the access road 189A2 would also reduce water-caused erosion. The proposed action would reduce sediment to Blacks Creek (EA, page 7).

Closing enthusiast-created trails would increase upland vegetation in the long term and reduce the opportunity for the introduction of invasive, non-native species (EA, page 8).

Greater levels of recreational use would increase the level of disturbance to wildlife in areas adjacent to use areas. However, sagebrush obligate species that require large, contiguous blocks of undisturbed sagebrush would benefit from restoration of enthusiast-created trails (EA, pages 11-12).

No other impacts, beneficial or adverse, were identified or are expected to occur to other resources or values as a result of implementing the proposed action.

*2)The degree to which the proposed action affects public health of safety.*

No public health and safety issues were identified in ID-110-2007-EA-9.

*3)Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.*

No unique characteristics of the assessment area were identified. No cultural resources, parklands, prime farmlands, or wild and scenic rivers are found within the area. There is no flood hazard to Blacks Creek or Wood Creek (the intermittent tributary of Blacks Creek that traverses the project site) associated with the project. There are no wetlands in the project area (Project Record, Watershed Specialist's Report).

*4)The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.*

The scoping and NEPA processes identified no controversy or disagreement concerning effects on the quality of the human environment.

5) *The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.*

No highly uncertain effects to the human environment or effects that involve unique or unknown risks were identified in the EA.

6) *The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.*

Implementation of the proposed action would neither establish a precedent nor trigger other actions. This project improves an existing enthusiast-created trailhead to an established recreation area. Activities authorized by this decision are not connected to other future actions.

7) *Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.*

ID-110-2007-EA-9 identified no known significant cumulative impacts associated with implementation of the proposed action (EA, pages 13-14).

8) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.*

ID-110-2007-EA-9 showed that the proposed improvements to the access road, parking area, and trailhead would not result in adverse effects to natural, scientific, cultural or historic resources (EA, page 12). The U.S. Forest Service consulted with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on this project when it was first proposed in 1995. The SHPO concurred with the Forest Service's determination.

9) *The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.*

EA #ID-110-2007-EA-9 showed that no threatened, endangered, or candidate plants, animals, or their habitat exist on the subject parcel (EA, pages 8-9).

10) *Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, and local laws or requirements imposed for protection of the environment.*

The proposed action analyzed in ID-110-2007-EA-9 is consistent and compatible with all known Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, or requirements imposed for protection of the environment (EA, page 4).

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Date